SHREWSBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT



CHIEF KEVIN E. ANDERSON

Bi-Monthly Newsletter September & October 2023

VISION:

"To be fully engaged in our community to co-produce public safety that reduces crime and improves quality of life."

PERSONNEL:

On July 27th, SPD welcomed three new police officers. Officer Thiago Roriz, Officer Jordan Carroll, and Officer Garrett Ostiguy (pictured left to right on the first row of pictures) were sworn in by Town Clerk Sharyn Thomas. These officers graduated from the Lynnfield Police Academy. Ofc. Carroll previously worked as a public safety officer in a local hospital. Ofc. Ostiguy previously worked for the MA Department of Correction for 3 years. Ofc. Roriz also has 3 years experience with the MA Department of Correction, served in the MA Army National Guard for 7 years, and is also trilingual in English, Portuguese and Spanish.

SPD also hired Officer Cal Samuel. Ofc. Samuel graduated from the Boylston Police Academy on Friday, September 29th, 2023, and was sworn in on October 2nd, 2023. Ofc. Samuel was selected to be the class leader for his recruit class, as his instructors and peers recognized his exceptional leadership and communication abilities. Ofc. Samuel is also fluent in both English and Russian.

The Massachusetts Police Association awarded the Life Saving Medal to Sgt. Matthew Caola, and Ofc. Shawn Valliere. These medals were awarded for actions in the line of duty on September 22nd, 2021.

SPD is also seeking qualified candidates to join our team as a full time Dispatcher!















COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/EVENTS:

On Tuesday, September 5th, Coffee With A Cop got rowdy in a good way. Det. Abbascia and K9/Elder Affairs Ofc. Chysna joined Lt. Palmatier and some very spirited folks at the Senior Center. The conversation covered everything from horticulture to family history to the sad lack of lemon-filled donuts. Next time, we bring the lemons!

On Monday, September 11th, SPD remembered 9/11; we honor the legacy of each life lost. SPD and Fire Departments joined to dedicate a 9/11 First Responder Memorial, constructed last year by students from Assabet High School's metal fabrication shop, using a piece of steel from Ground Zero. Several of the students involved were guests at the ceremony. Honor Guards from both departments stood at attention during prayers and Chief Kevin Anderson's remarks, honoring the many first responders who lost their lives as a result of 9/11. We will never forget.

On Tuesday, September 12th, SPD joined with town and state officials, as well as citizens, to <u>dedicate</u> the new police station. The theme was police and community working together to accomplish great things- the facility itself is a tangible result of such partnering, yet the message from all speakers present was one of teamwork and unity.

On Thursday, September 21st, SPD had the first ever Community Night! The day brought perfect weather, great food, outstanding law enforcement officers, first responders, civic partners, and the community! This night served as an open house for the new police station, while also fostering relationships between the community and personnel within the department. SPD looks forward to continuing this event in the future!











On Sunday, September 24th, members of the SPD participated in The Spirit of Shrewsbury Parade!

On Friday, September 29th, SPD officers participated in one of the many High Five Fridays at Floral School.

Sgt. Ryan Bradley planned two events for the 2023 Faith & Blue Weekend, one of which was community engagement at the Al-Hamra Academy on Friday, October 6th, where students had the opportunity to meet officers and examine cruisers and a police motorcycle. The second event was dubbed a "Tour of Service" where officers attended mass at St. Anne's Church, then shared coffee with parishioners.

SPD partnered with DetecTogether in two Pink Patch events; Thursday, October 12, at Shrewsbury Town Hall, and Thursday, October 19, at Tavern in the Square. Available items this year were challenge coins, keychains, and drawstring bags.

DetecTogether is a non-profit organization that provides an early cancer detection education program.

On Saturday, October 21st, SPD's Truck or Treat event was a smashing success, Sgt. Dave Faucher and Officer Dan Wnek were joined by Chief Kevin Anderson handing out candy.

On Monday, October 23rd, Ofc. Eric Sloan organized a charity law enforcement softball tournament to benefit Cops for Kids with Cancer. The tournament included teams representing SPD as well as departments in Westborough, Auburn, and Worcester, and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office. SPD not only won the tournament, but also raised approximately \$2,000!

On Saturday, October 28th, Sgt. Napolitano and Ofc. Hester oversaw the prescription medication drug take back event, where 121 lbs of prescription medication was collected that will be properly, and safely, disposed of.















Trick or Treat in Shrewsbury was a safe, enjoyable night for all! Officers from SPD were out in the community all evening, passing out glow stick wristbands and monitoring pedestrian traffic in busy neighborhoods.









TRAINING:

Members of the Shrewsbury Police Department have taken full advantage of their new state-of-the-art Training Room and Facilities. Over the past several months, officers have been diligently polishing their skills, techniques, and education through the highest of training standards. Officers have completed training in CPR/First Responder, Defensive Tactics, De-Escalation, Firearms, Taser, Mental Health and Wellness, Marine Unit (Lake Patrol), Body Worn Camera (BWC), Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR), Crisis Response and Behavioral Health, as well as Critical Incident Training (CIT). Sgt. Michael Vitols, SPD's Professional Development and Training Coordinator, is continuously striving to develop the most comprehensive training program to ensure that all officers receive the most up-to-date and progressive training available.













LOOKING AHEAD:

November is <u>National Native American Heritage Month</u>! The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution, and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans.

Sunday, November 5th: Daylight Savings Time – Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour & re-program lights to turn on earlier, in order to deter potential break ins!

On Saturday, November 11, at 11 am, SPD will be participating in the Town of Shrewsbury's Veterans Day ceremony to honor veterans on Maple Avenue, in front of the old Beal School. Please join us in honoring all veterans, including those who gave their lives for our country.

SPD is hosting a few upcoming Coffee With A Cop - Please join us for coffee, donuts, & great conversations! Monday, November 13th, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, at Shrewsbury Towers Monday, December 4th, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, at the Senior Center

The SPD Drone Unit is in development! Officers Brett Wester and Corey Van Beekom were selected to be the first-ever operators for the new Drone Unit. SPD acquired a Matrice 30T Thermal Quadcopter drone, and the officers are busy undergoing training and studying for pilot exams. Once operational, the drone unit will assist with search & rescue missions, accident reconstruction, traffic research, disaster response, crime scene mapping, tactical reconnaissance, and more!

SPD will also be hosting a Toy Drive in December to give families in need of help an opportunity to make their holidays special! Stay tuned for more details on this event, and how you can donate/participate. Pictured below is the drive from December of 2022, let's make this year even better!

As the holiday season approaches, remember to be mindful when shipping packages to your home. Don't let packages sit for long on doorsteps, do not leave packages in vehicles (and always lock your vehicles!), and if you will not be home during a delivery, ask a neighbor or family to retrieve your package for you. Also consider outdoor security cameras, signature/shipping services, or shipping insurance to prevent unattended packages from being stolen.









GRANTS/TRAFFIC:

SPD received a \$20,895 grant for body-worn cameras from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. This grant will allow SPD to expand its body-worn camera program, improving accountability and transparency in policing.

SPD was awarded \$173,283.00 in grant funding under the FY24 Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), State 911 Department Support and Incentive Grant. The majority of these funds (\$163,896.70) will be utilized to reimburse Shrewsbury Police dispatcher salaries for the year, as well as an approximate \$9386 utilized to replace our emergency 911 and business phone line recording equipment.

Since 2022, our department has also partnered with Advocates, and received a 3 year grant contract for our full time mental health clinician, Jessica Atwood. Advocates also provides 24/7 coverage for clinicians on call for our department. This Co-Response model allows for much needed de-escalation, crisis stabilization, assessment/evaluation for mental health emergencies, and may help facilitate jail diversion programs.

SPD's Traffic Officer Charland has been able to place speed signs in 36 different locations around town from November of 2022 to October of this year. These signs are a part of an effort to encourage safe driving, and was funded via a safety grant.

INCIDENTS AT A GLANCE:

September 2023

Total Arrests: 34

Total Incidents: 3630

Criminal Summons Issued: 30

911 Calls: 894

Accidents & Disabled Vehicles: 134

Arrest Warrants Served: 17

Burglar Alarm Calls: 75

Disputes & Disturbances: 67

Domestic Disputes: 39



Identity Theft: 12 Investigations: 60 Lake Incidents: 51

Larcenies & Shopliftings: 35

Medical Calls: 252

Motor Vehicle Stops: 566

OUI's: 7

Security Checks: 1225

Suspicious Persons Reported: 155

MISSION STATEMENT:

"The mission of the Shrewsbury Police Department is to enhance the quality of life and safety of our community by developing lasting partnerships with our residents and visitors. We dedicate ourselves to serving The Town of Shrewsbury with honor, service, and integrity."

"We Serve Better Together"

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